

Welcome to Kindergarten!



Welcome to Kindergarten! My name is Melissa DeVries and I am the Kindergarten teacher at Grant Christian School. I am so excited to start this year! I look forward to getting to know you, your children, and the rest of your family this year!

I thought I would start off by letting you get to know me a little better. This is my fifth year teaching and my fifth year here at GCS. I graduated from Calvin College with a degree in Early Childhood Education. I grew up in Kalamazoo, MI and come from a family of six. I have always had a passion for teaching and for sharing the love of Christ with children. I am very excited to start this new adventure of five day Kindergarten!

Communication:

I love parent volunteers, and I invite you to help out in your child's classroom as much as you would like. I offer many different ways for you to get involved in your child's classroom including weekly guest readers, joining us on field trips, and helping out with special events. I would love to get to know any and all of you, so feel free to stop in and say hi!

I will be sending out a weekly newsletter on Friday's to let you know some highlights from the week and what big things are happening in the coming week. I will keep you updated on our learning progress throughout the year. I will send this newsletter home with your student in their take-home folder. If you would also like an electronic copy please let me know!

Snacks & Lunch:

We have a morning snack just before morning recess. Students will have 15 minutes for snack each day. Each student should bring his or her own snack to school each day. We will also have 15-20 minutes for lunch. There is also milk and chocolate milk offered for lunch. You can pick up an order form in the office.

Birthdays:

You are more than welcome to send or drop off a birthday treat for your child's birthday. Please send me a note or e-mail me if you are going to bring in a treat for your child's special day. I know birthdays are fun and very special, and we will certainly enjoy celebrating as a class! Birthdays are a big event in Kindergarten and I love how special each child gets to feel on their special day! If your child has a summer birthday we can celebrate their half birthday!

What your child needs:

For the first day of school, please be sure your child has the following materials:

- Backpack
- Take home folder with pockets
- Clear Pencil Box (we will be putting nametags on them)
- 8 Beginner Pencils (they're fatter than normal pencils)
- 2 boxes of 24 Crayola Crayons
- Box of Crayola colored pencils
- Box of 8 Crayola **Washable** Markers (classic colors)
- 6 Glue Sticks (these go so fast, but work the best!)
- 1 Glue Bottle
- Scissors
- 2 Boxes of Tissues
- 4 Lysol Wipes (or other brand)
- 1 hand sanitizer
- Ziploc bags (or other brand) – 1 gallon and 1 quart size

If you ever have any questions or concerns please feel free to give me a call or text me (269-370-1084), stop in, or send me an e-mail (mdevries@grantchristianschool.org).

I feel very blessed to have your child in class this year and I can't wait to see what the year holds!

Your partner in Education,

Melissa DeVries